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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of isolating adult cardiac cells comprising,
 - (a) obtaining a tissue sample from a subject,
 - (b) successively exposing the tissue to a first solution with ~~decreasing~~ amounts of CaCl₂ decreasing from about 1-2 μ M, comprising NaCl, HEPES, MgCl₂, KCl, and sugar at a pH of approximately 7.4,
 - (c) disassociating the tissue with an enzyme solution,
 - (d) repeatedly resuspending the disassociated tissue into a second solution with ~~increasing~~ amounts of CaCl₂ increasing from about 1-2 μ M, comprising modified Earle's modified salt, L-glutamine, sodium bicarbonate, sodium pentothenate, creatine, taurine, ascorbic acid, HEPES, ~~fetal bovine serum~~, and an antibiotic, ~~and a fatty acid~~, at a pH of approximately 7.4 to obtain isolated cells.
2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of resuspending the isolated cells approximately every 24 hours in a solution comprising modified Earle's modified salt, L-glutamine, sodium bicarbonate, sodium pentothenate, creatine, taurine, ascorbic acid, HEPES, ~~fetal bovine serum~~, an antibiotic, ~~a fatty acid~~, and CaCl₂ at a pH of approximately 7.4.
3. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of incubating the isolated cells in a mixture of carbon dioxide and air.
4. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the isolated cells are incubated at approximately 37°C.
5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein, the first solution is exposed to the tissue at approximately 37°C and at approximately 4 ml/min for 3 minutes.

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6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the concentration of CaCl_2 in the first solution decreases.
7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the first solution comprises approximately 140 mM NaCl, approximately 10 mM HEPES, approximately 1 mM MgCl_2 , approximately 5.4 mM KCl, and approximately 10 mM D-glucose.
8. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the enzyme solution comprises a digestive enzyme.
9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the digestive enzyme is a protease or a collagenase.
10. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the concentration of CaCl_2 in the second solution increases.
11. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the enzyme solution comprises approximately 140 mM NaCl, approximately 10 mM HEPES, approximately 1 mM MgCl_2 , approximately 5.4 mM KCl, and approximately 10 mM D-glucose.
12. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the second solution comprises modified Earle's modified salt, L-glutamine, sodium bicarbonate at approximately 1250mg/l, sodium pentothenate, creatine at approximately 328 mg/500ml, taurine at approximately 312mg/500ml, Ascorbic acid at approximately 8.8 mg, HEPES at approximately 2.383g/500ml, ~~fetal bovine serum at approximately 10% v/v,~~ and an antibiotic at approximately 5% v/v, ~~a fatty acid at approximately 1 μM~~ at a pH of approximately 7.4.
13. (currently amended) A method of isolating adult cardiac cells comprising,
(a) obtaining a tissue sample from a subject,
(b) successively exposing at approximately 37°C the tissue to a first solution with ~~decreasing amounts of CaCl_2 decreasing from about 1-2 μM~~ , comprising approximately 140 mM NaCl, approximately 10 mM HEPES, approximately 1 mM MgCl_2 , approximately 5.4 mM KCl, and approximately 10 mM sugar at a pH of approximately 7.4,
(c) disassociating the tissue with an enzyme solution for approximately 8 minutes comprising approximately 140 mM NaCl, approximately 10 mM HEPES, approximately 1 mM
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MgCl₂, approximately 5.4 mM KCl, and approximately 10 mM sugar, to form disassociated cells,

(d) repeatedly resuspending the disassociated cells into a second solution with ~~increasing amounts of CaCl₂ increasing to about 1-2μM, comprising modified Earle's modified salt, L-glutamine, sodium bicarbonate at approximately 1250mg/l, sodium pentothenate, creatine at approximately 328 mg/500ml, taurine at approximately 312mg/500ml, ascorbic acid at approximately 8.8 mg, HEPES at approximately 2.383g/500ml, fetal bovine serum at approximately 10% v/v, and an antibiotic at approximately 5% v/v, and a fatty acid at approximately 1 μM~~ at a pH of approximately 7.4 to form a solution of isolated cells,

(e) incubating the isolated cells in a mixture of carbon dioxide and air at approximately 37°C, and

(f) re-suspending the isolated cells approximately every 24 hours in a solution comprising ~~modified Earle's modified salt, L-glutamine, sodium bicarbonate, sodium pentothenate, creatine, taurine, ascorbic acid, HEPES, fetal bovine serum, an antibiotic, a fatty acid, and CaCl₂~~ at a pH of approximately 7.4 to obtain isolated cells.

14. (withdrawn) A method of cultivating isolated cells comprising, resuspending the isolated cells approximately every 24 hours in a solution comprising Earle's modified salt, L-glutamine, sodium bicarbonate, sodium pentothenate, creatine, taurine, ascorbic acid, HEPES, fetal bovine serum, an antibiotic, a fatty acid, and CaCl₂ at a pH of approximately 7.4.

15. (withdrawn) The method of claim 14 wherein the solution comprises sodium bicarbonate at approximately 1250mg/l, creatine at approximately 328 mg/500ml, taurine at approximately 312 mg/500ml, ascorbic acid at approximately 8.8 mg/500 ml, HEPES at approximately 2.383 g/500ml, fetal bovine serum at approximately 10% v/v, an antibiotic at approximately 5% v/v, and a fatty acid at approximately 1 μM, and approximately 1mM CaCl₂.

16. (withdrawn) A cell culture media for cells comprising Earle's modified salt, L-glutamine, sodium bicarbonate, sodium pentothenate, creatine, taurine, ascorbic acid, HEPES, fetal bovine serum, an antibiotic, a fatty acid, and CaCl₂ at a pH of approximately 7.4.

17. (withdrawn) The cell culture media of claim 16 wherein the media comprises sodium bicarbonate at approximately 1250mg/l, creatine at approximately 328 mg/500ml, taurine at approximately 312 mg/500ml, ascorbic acid at approximately 8.8 mg/500 ml, HEPES at

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approximately 2.383 g/500ml, fetal bovine serum at approximately 10% v/v, an antibiotic at approximately 5% v/v, a fatty acid at approximately 1 μ M, and approximately 1mM CaCl_2 .

18. (withdrawn) A method of isolating cells comprising,
(a) obtaining a tissue sample comprising cells from a subject ;
(b) chopping the tissue;
(c) incubating the tissue in a first solution comprising calcium, salts, magnesium sulfate, pyruvate, glucose, taurine, HEPES, and nitrilotriacetic acid;
(d) incubating the tissue in a second solution comprising calcium, salts, magnesium sulfate, pyruvate, glucose, taurine, HEPES, and a digestive enzyme;
(e) incubating the tissue in a third solution comprising calcium, salts, magnesium sulfate, pyruvate, glucose, taurine, HEPES, and a digestive enzyme; and
(f) centrifuging the tissue to obtain isolated cells .
19. (withdrawn) The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of resuspending the isolated cells in a culture media comprising medium M199, BSA, ascorbic acid, taurine, carnitine, creatinine, insulin, and an antibiotic .
20. (withdrawn) The method of claim 19, wherein the culture media further comprises a fatty acid or magnesium.
21. (withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein the first solution comprises approximately 1-2 μ M CaCl_2 , approximately 120mM NaCl, approximately 5.4 mM KCl 5.4, approximately 5 mM MgSO_4 , approximately 5 mM pyruvate, approximately 20 mM glucose 20, approximately 20 mM taurine, approximately 10 mM HEPES, and approximately 5 mM nitrilotriacetic acid, at a pH of approximately 6.96.
22. (withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein the second solution comprises approximately 1-2 μ M CaCl_2 , approximately 30 μ M NaCl, approximately 5.4 mM KCl 5.4, approximately 5 mM MgSO_4 , approximately 5 mM pyruvate, approximately 20 mM glucose 20, approximately 20 mM taurine, approximately 10 mM HEPES, and 4 U/ml of a digestive enzyme.
23. (withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein the third solution comprises approximately 1-2 μ M CaCl_2 , approximately 30 μ M NaCl, approximately 5.4 mM KCl 5.4,

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approximately 5 mM MgSO₄, approximately 5 mM pyruvate, approximately 20 mM glucose 20, approximately 20 mM taurine, approximately 10 mM HEPES, and 4 U/ml of a digestive enzyme.

24. (withdrawn) A method of isolating cells comprising,
- (a) obtaining a tissue sample comprising cells from a subject ;
 - (b) chopping the tissue;
 - (c) incubating the tissue in a first solution comprising approximately 1-2 μ M CaCl₂, approximately 120mM NaCl, approximately 5.4 mM KCl 5.4, approximately 5 mM MgSO₄, approximately 5 mM pyruvate, approximately 20 mM glucose 20, approximately 20 mM taurine, approximately 10 mM HEPES, and approximately 5 mM nitrilotriacetic acid, at a pH of approximately 6.96;
 - (d) shaking the tissue at approximately 37°C for approximately 12 minutes;
 - (e) bubbling approximately 100% O₂ through the solution;
 - (f) incubating the tissue in a second solution comprising approximately 1-2 μ M CaCl₂, approximately 30 μ M NaCl, approximately 5.4 mM KCl 5.4, approximately 5 mM MgSO₄, approximately 5 mM pyruvate, approximately 20 mM glucose 20, approximately 20 mM taurine, approximately 10 mM HEPES, and 4 U/ml of a digestive enzyme;
 - (g) incubating the solution in a third solution comprising third solution comprises approximately 1-2 μ M CaCl₂, approximately 30 μ M NaCl, approximately 5.4 mM KCl 5.4, approximately 5 mM MgSO₄, approximately 5 mM pyruvate, approximately 20 mM glucose 20, approximately 20 mM taurine, approximately 10 mM HEPES, and 4 U/ml of a digestive enzyme; and
 - (h) centrifuging the tissue to obtain isolated cells.

25. (withdrawn) A method of isolating and cultivating human myocardial cells comprising,
- (a) obtaining a tissue sample comprising myocardial cells from a human subject;
 - (b) chopping the tissue;
 - (c) incubating the tissue in a first solution comprising approximately 1-2 μ M calcium, approximately 120mM NaCl, approximately 5.4 mM KCl, approximately 5 mM MgSO₄, approximately 5 mM pyruvate, approximately 20 mM glucose 20, approximately 20 mM taurine, approximately 10 mM HEPES, and approximately 5 mM nitrilotriacetic acid, at a pH of approximately 6.96;
 - (d) shaking the tissue at approximately 37°C for approximately 12 minutes;
 - (e) bubbling approximately 100% O₂ through the solution;

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(f) incubating the tissue in a second solution comprising approximately 1-2 μ M, approximately 30 μ M NaCl, approximately 5.4 mM KCl, approximately 5 mM $MgSO_4$, approximately 5 mM pyruvate, approximately 20 mM glucose 20, approximately 20 mM taurine, approximately 10 mM HEPES, and 4 U/ml of a digestive enzyme;

(g) incubating the solution in a third solution comprising third solution comprises approximately 1-2 μ M, approximately 30 μ M NaCl, approximately 5.4 mM KCl 5.4, approximately 5 mM $MgSO_4$, approximately 5 mM pyruvate, approximately 20 mM glucose 20, approximately 20 mM taurine, approximately 10 mM HEPES, and 400U/ml of a digestive enzyme;

(h) centrifuging the tissue to obtain isolated cells;

(i) repeatedly resuspending the disassociated cells into a second solution which comprises increasing amounts of $CaCl_2$, Earle's modified salt, L-glutamine, sodium bicarbonate at approximately 1250mg/l, sodium pentothenate, creatine at approximately 328 mg/500ml, taurine at approximately 312mg/500ml, ascorbic acid at approximately 8.8 mg, HEPES at approximately 2.383g/500ml, fetal bovine serum at approximately 10% v/v, an antibiotic at approximately 5% v/v, and a fatty acid at approximately 1 μ M at a pH of approximately 7.4 to form a solution of isolated cells; and

(j) incubating the isolated cells in a mixture of carbon dioxide and air at approximately 37°C.

26. (withdrawn) A method of isolating and cultivating rodent myocardial cells comprising,

(a) removing the heart of a rodent;

(b) perfusing the heart with low calcium Tyrode's solution for approximately 3 minutes;

(c) perfusing the heart with an enzymatic solution for approximately 8 minutes;

(d) perfusing the heart with a low calcium solution for approximately 3 minutes;

(e) removing the ventricles;

(f) mincing the ventricles to isolate myocardial cells;

(g) mixing the cells in a low calcium solution;

(h) resuspending the cells in a solution comprising increasing concentrations of calcium; and

(i) resuspending the cells in culture media solution.

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